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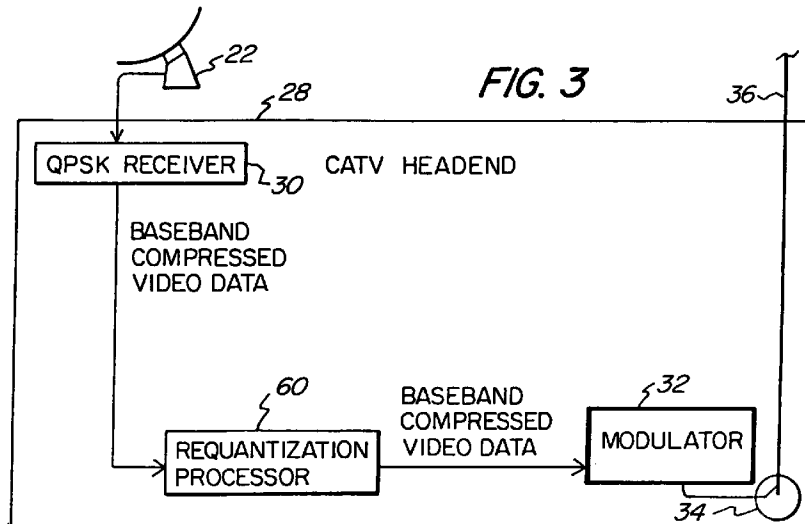
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(54) Method and apparatus for partially recompressing digital signals

(57) A method and apparatus are provided for changing the compression level of digital information, such as digital video information. After having been compressed by a first compression scheme that provides quantized transform coefficients, the digital information is partially decompressed to recover the

transform coefficients as they were prior to quantizing. The transform coefficients are then requantized at a different compression level. The previously compressed information is only partially decompressed and requantized to modify its compression level.





European Patent Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 95 11 6410

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X	BOYCE J M: "DATA SELECTION STRATEGIES FOR DIGITAL VCR LONG PLAY MODE" DIGEST OF TECHNICAL PAPERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CONSUMER ELECTRONICS (ICCE), ROSEMONT, JUNE 21 - 23, 1994, 21 June 1994, page 32/33 XP000503953 INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS	1-6,9, 12,13	H04N7/26
A	* page 32, right-hand column, line 26 - page 33, left-hand column, line 15 * * figure 2 *	7,8,10, 11,14-20	
X	MORRISON D G, NILSSON M E, GHANBARI M: "REDUCTION OF BIT-RATE OF COMPRESSED VIDEO WHILE IN ITS CODED FORM" SIXTH INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON PACKET VIDEO, September 1994, pages D17.1-D17.4, XP002075303 PORTLAND, USA	1-5,12, 13	
A	* page D17.1, line 7 - page D17.2, line 10 * * figure 1 *	6-11, 14-20	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6) H04N
P,X	EP 0 637 893 A (NEDERLAND PTT) 8 February 1995 * column 10, line 11 - column 12, line 1 * * figure 2 *	1-5,9, 12,13	
E	EP 0 690 392 A (PHILIPS ELECTRONICS NV) 3 January 1996 * abstract * * page 2, line 12 - page 2, line 16 * * page 7, line 11 - page 7, line 41 * * figure 8 *	1-5,12, 13,16-18	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 24 August 1998	Examiner Hampson, F
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 95 11 6410

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
E	WO 95 35628 A (SNELL & WILCOX LTD ;KNEE MICHAEL JAMES (GB); DEVLIN BRUCE FAIRBAIR) 28 December 1995 * page 1, line 30 - page 2, line 11 * * page 2, line 19 - page 3, line 18 * * page 4, line 26 - page 6, line 2 * * page 15, line 8 - page 16, line 32 * * figures 9,10 * ---	1-9,12, 13	
A	EP 0 618 734 A (SONY CORP) 5 October 1994 * abstract * * page 10, line 43 - page 10, line 58 * ---	1,10-12, 14-16, 19,20	
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Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 24 August 1998	Examiner Hampson, F
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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